Withdrawal from oil pool account

†2262. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the amount in excess to the prescribed amount from the oil pool account has been withdrawn by some of the public sector companies in respect of the corporate payment during the recent past years;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and the amount in excess withdrawn by each of the company, separately; and

(c) the total amount deposited in the oil pool account till the end of March, 2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the C and AG in its Report No. 2 of 2000 (Civil) has made certain observations in regard to management of oil pool account. The Government is in the process of settling these observations.

(c) The Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector has been dismantled with effect from 01.04.2002 and the Oil Pool Account stands abolished effective this date.

Increase in freight rate for transportation of crude oil

†2263. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the freight rate fixed for the transportation for the crude oil from abroad has been increasing continuously after April, 2002 to September, 2003;

(b) if so, what was the freight rate in April 2002 and in September, 2003; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.